

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1-6, 8, 9, 23, and 24 over JP 2002-367683 (Watanabe). Applicant also respectfully traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claim 7 over Watanabe, and over Watanabe in view of U.S. Patent 6,265,098 (Audit).

As recited, e.g., in claim 1, a secondary battery includes first and second cells. Each cell includes a generally cylindrical core; a first generally cylindrical electrode of a first polarity disposed concentrically around the core at a first distance away from the core; a second generally cylindrical electrode of the first polarity disposed concentrically around the core at a second distance away from the core; a third generally cylindrical electrode of a second opposite polarity disposed concentrically around the core at a third distance away from the core; a fourth generally cylindrical electrode of a second polarity disposed concentrically around the third electrode, and spaced a fourth distance away from the core; a plurality of generally cylindrical separators disposed between the respective electrodes separating the electrodes from one another, wherein at least one electrode of the first polarity in the first cell is in electrical contact with at least one electrode of the second polarity in the second cell.

New claim 29 recites a secondary battery similar to claim 1, except claim 29 recites first and second generally cylindrical electrodes spaced first and second distances, respectively, away from the core, with the second electrode having an opposite polarity of the first electrode.

Watanabe, in contrast, discloses a cylindrical battery, having a cylindrical core 2 around which is wound a photoelectric conversion post 3. The battery does not include adjacent cells, each cell having a plurality of generally cylindrical electrodes spaced

different distances away from the core. Photoelectric conversion post 3 is one continuous coil, as can be seen from review of Figs. 1, 2, and 6. Watanabe does not disclose or suggest more than one generally cylindrical electrode, concentrically disposed around a core, spaced from the core at different distances, as recited in the claims.

Audit also discloses a cylindrical battery. A tubular casing 40 includes a coiled winding 44, defined by a cathode plate 46, and an anode plate 48, and a separator 50. Winding 44 also appears to be a continuous coil, rather than more than one generally cylindrical electrodes spaced at different distances away from the core, and so Audit does not add the features of the claims missing from Watanabe.

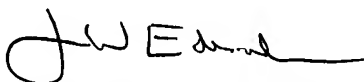
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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